

the Minister. It is required, however, that the Boards' regulations shall set forth—“(1) Whether the scholarships are open to all children of school age, or are to be competed for by pupils attending public schools only; (2) any other conditions of candidature (for example, as to age); (3) the annual value of each scholarship, the term for which it is to be held, and the condition of tenure (as to good conduct and diligence); (4) the subjects of examination; and (5) the minimum proportion of marks in each subject, and of total possible marks, which will be necessary to qualify for a scholarship.”

TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

Training schools on a comparatively large scale have been in operation at Dunedin and Christchurch for several years. The Dunedin institution was established in January, 1876; and the school in Christchurch has been in full operation since the beginning of 1877. The training institution established by the Wellington Board was opened last September, under the charge of Mr. C. C. Howard. Information respecting these institutions is furnished by the Principals in their reports, which are printed in the Appendix. A training school has been opened at Auckland by the Board since the close of last year. Wellesley Street public school has been selected by the Board as the practising school in connection with the training institution.

The regulations framed by the Boards, in accordance with the Order in Council of September 24th, 1878, for the organisation and conduct of the training colleges established by them, are printed in the Appendix. It may reasonably be expected that well-equipped and efficiently-conducted training institutions at the four principal centres of population will eventually furnish a fair supply of properly-trained teachers for the schools of the colony.

The following extract from the report of the Rector of the Dunedin Training College shows the nature of the training imparted to the students of a normal school :—

“The practice in teaching has been arranged as follows :—

“I. Teaching small drafts from large classes in the Second and Third Standards. Draft is added to draft as the power of controlling numbers is developed, and the students are gradually prepared for the next course.

“II. Teaching classes in the Second, Third, and Fourth Standards, containing from 50 to 60 pupils.

“III. Conducting, with the assistance of a pupil-teacher, a school of about 40 pupils, divided into three classes, in the Second, Third, and Fourth Standards.

“IV. Conducting, without assistance, a school of about 40 pupils, divided into three classes, in the Second, Third, and Fourth Standards.

“V. Conducting, without assistance, a school of about 40 pupils, divided into four classes, in the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Standards.

“VI. Conducting, without assistance, a school of about 50 pupils, divided into five classes, two preparing for the First Standard, and one in each of the three lowest Standards.

“Students who complete this course of practice before the end of their second year of training are placed in charge of an infant room, containing from 60 to 70 pupils, and occasionally give lessons to classes in the Fifth and Sixth Standards.

“The whole of the needlework of the practising school is taught by the students, under the superintendence of the matron and female assistants.”

In addition to the practical work above described, the students are required to study the following subjects under the tuition of the staff: Theory of school method and management, the English language, arithmetic, mathematics, geography, history, music (singing), drawing, gymnastics, military drill; and, in the case of females, needlework and domestic economy.

One of the large rooms in the Wellington Normal School building is set apart for the purposes of a Colonial Educational Museum and Library. From Home publishers and manufacturers the Government have received, for the museum and library, very liberal donations of school-books and other educational works, maps, diagrams, mathematical instruments, and a variety of school appliances, which